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Special issue on Entrepreneurship, Firm Growth and Regional Development in the New Economic Geography

Guest editors: Charlie Karlsson and Rolf Dahlberg

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the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are aged 65 and over has increased from 10.5 million to 12.5 million, and the number of people aged 75 and over from 4.5 million to 6.5 million (Office of National Statistics 2000).

There is a growing awareness of the need to address the needs of older people in the community, and the importance of the role of the general practitioner (GP) in this. The Department of Health (1999) has published a strategy for the care of older people, which states that the GP is the key professional in the community, and that the GP should be able to provide a comprehensive range of services to older people, including the assessment and management of physical, mental and social problems. The strategy also states that the GP should be able to provide a range of services to older people, including the assessment and management of physical, mental and social problems.

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